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FIG. 1

Prior Art

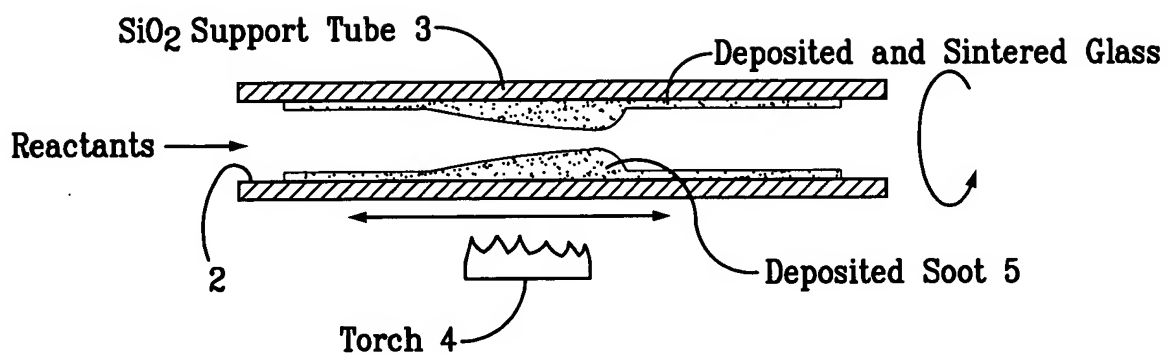


FIG. 2

Prior Art

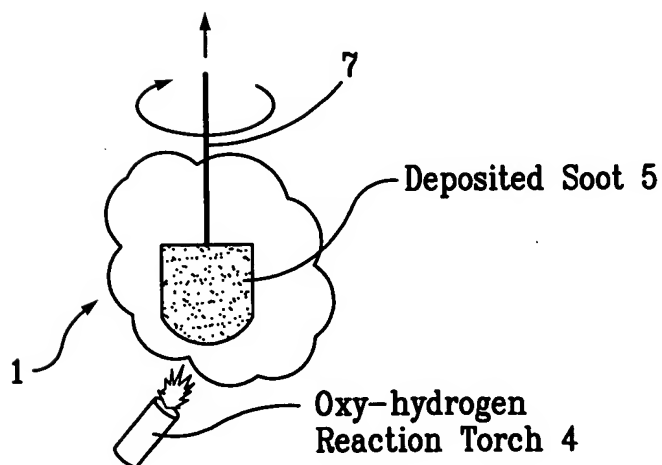
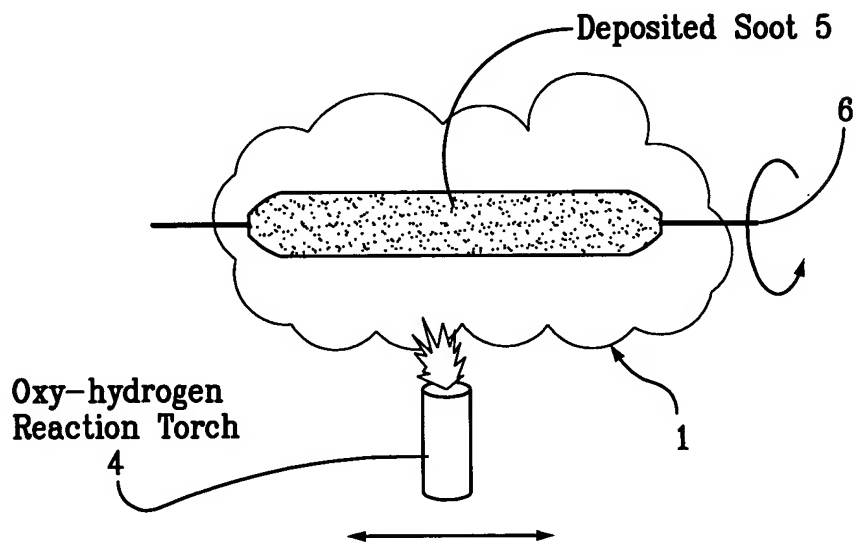
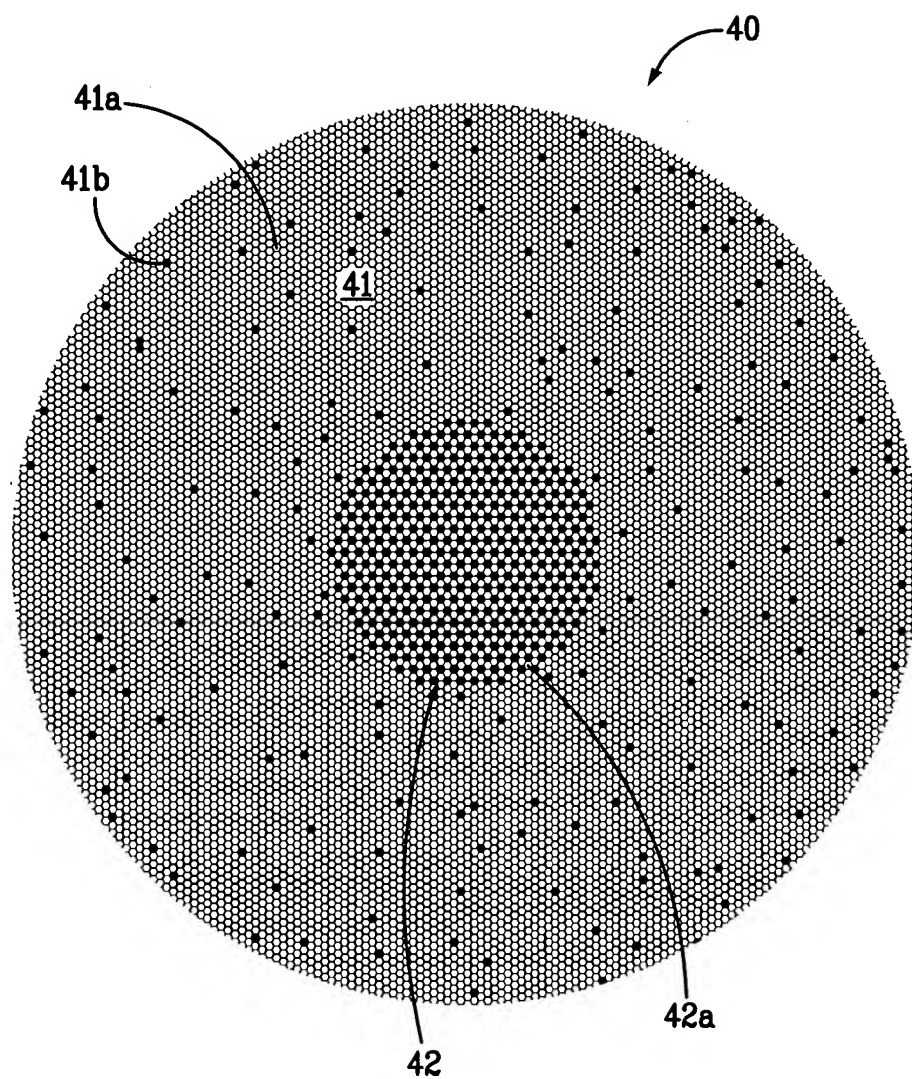


FIG. 3

Prior Art

FIG. 4



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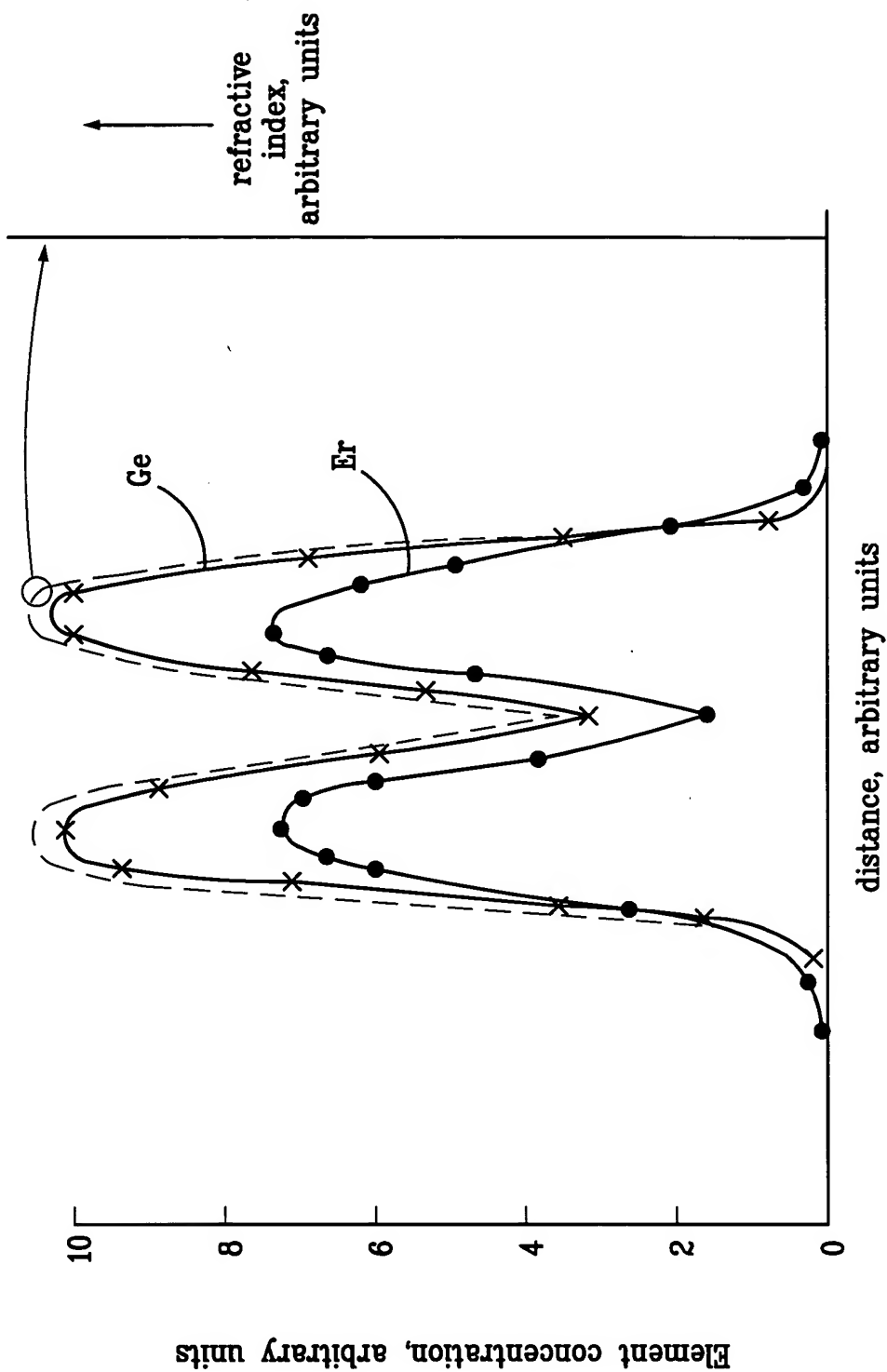
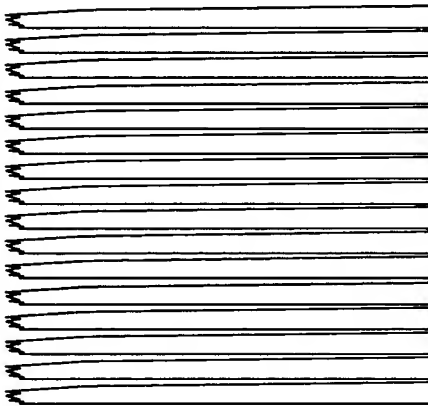


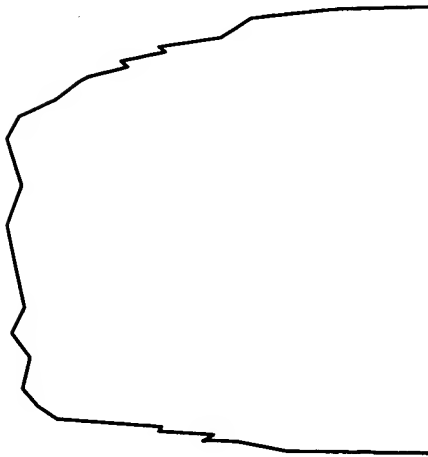
FIG. 5

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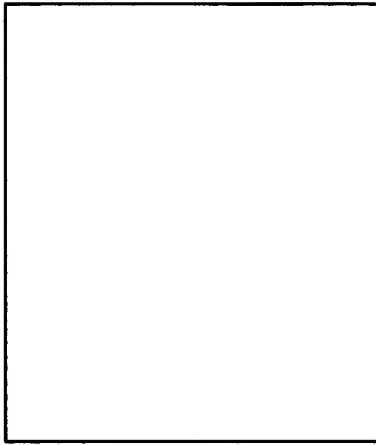
Index (or dopant) profile of
a group of such rods
bundled together.

FIG. 6B



Index (or dopant) of core or
cladding that has suffered
the effects of burnout.

FIG. 6A



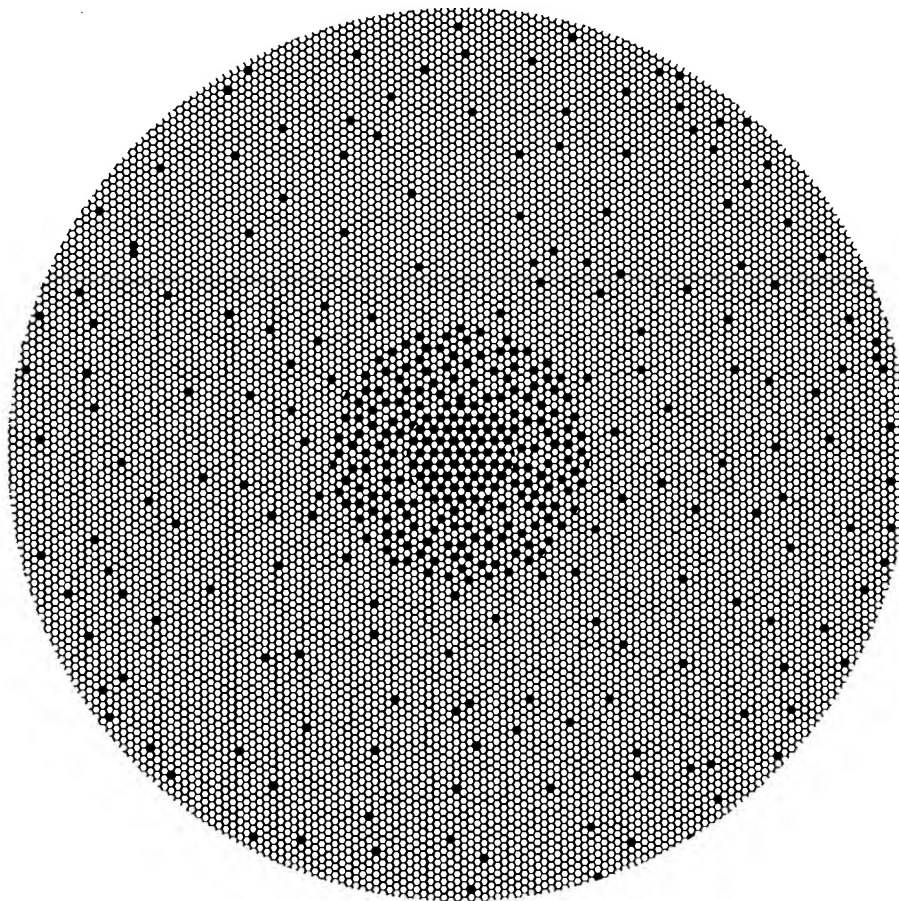
Effective index (or dopant)
profile seen by mode field in
fiber fabricated from such a
preform bundle.

FIG. 6C

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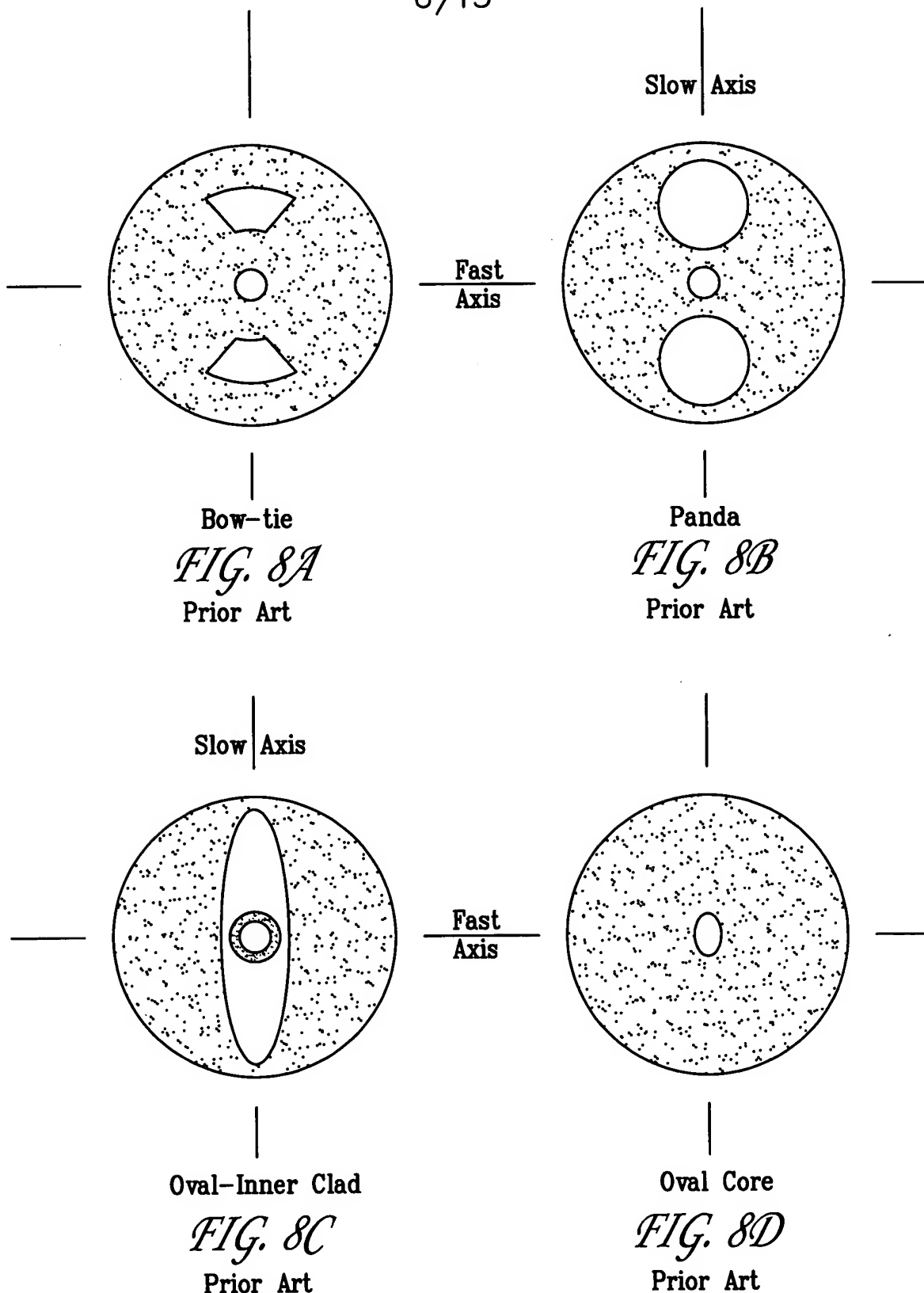
7

FIG. 7



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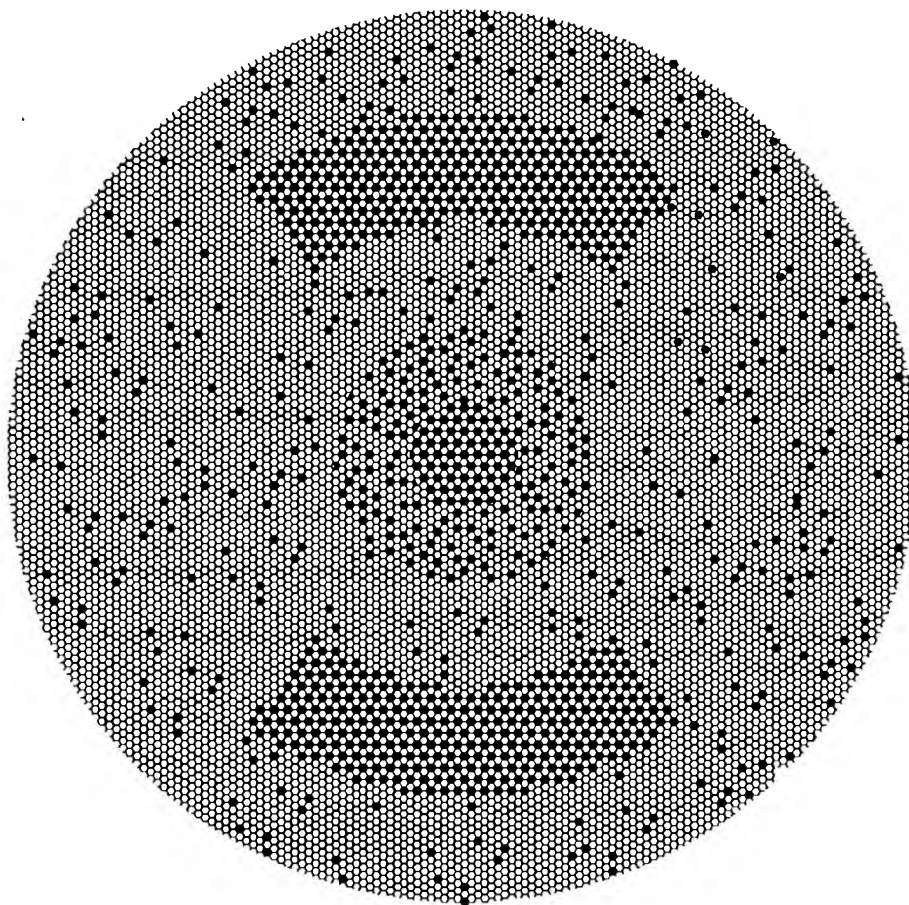
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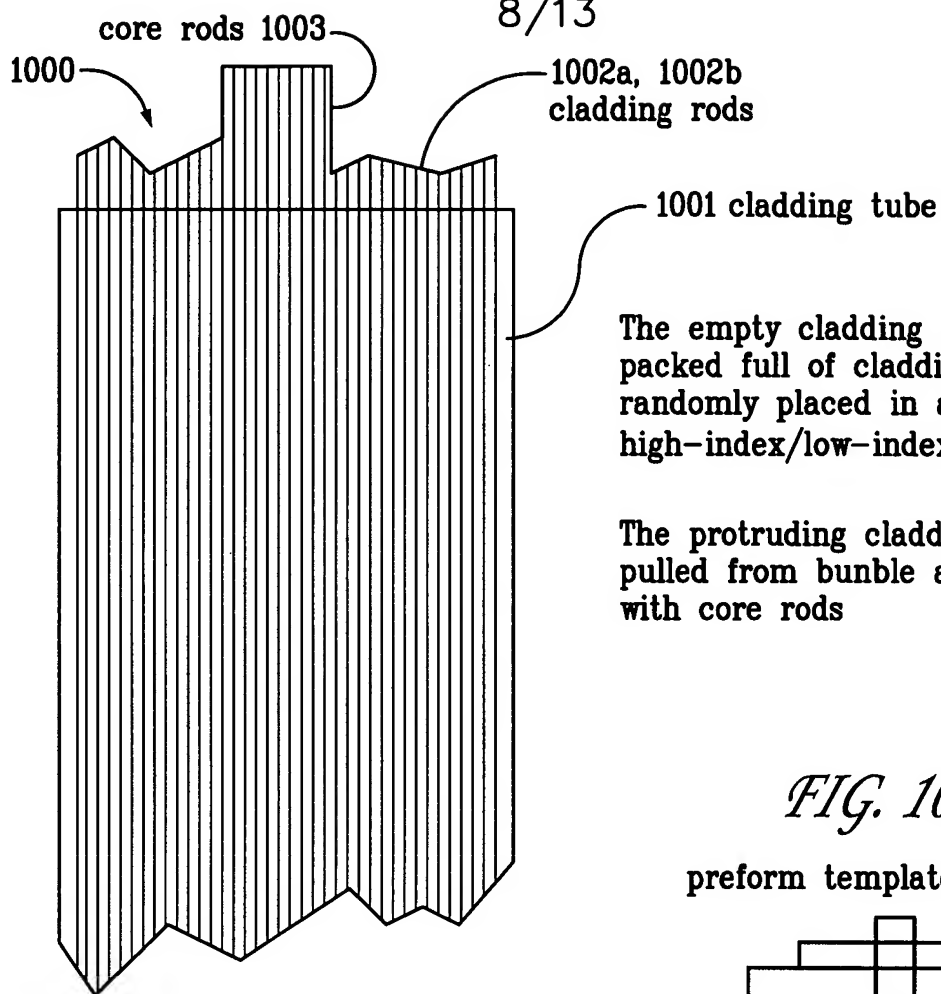
7

FIG. 9



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The empty cladding tube is
packed full of cladding rods,
randomly placed in appropriate
high-index/low-index ratio

The protruding cladding rods are
pulled from bunble and replaced
with core rods

FIG. 10A

preform template 1004

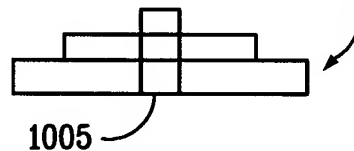


FIG. 10B

preform template 1004

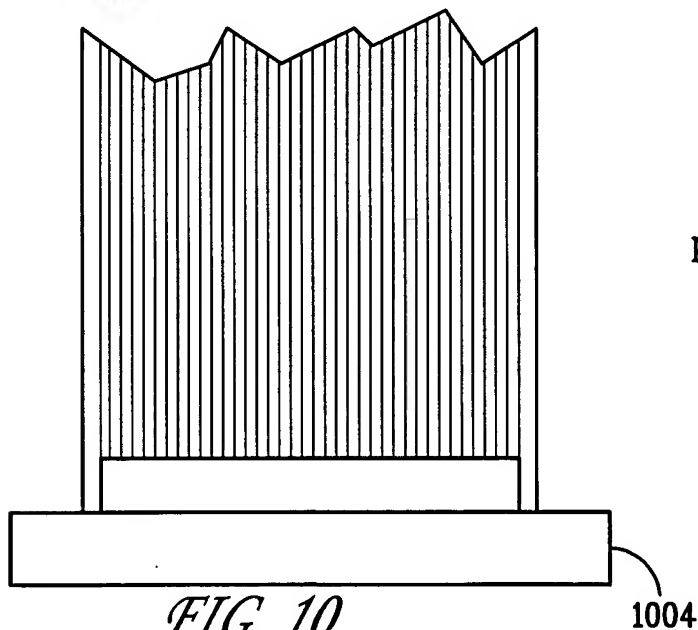
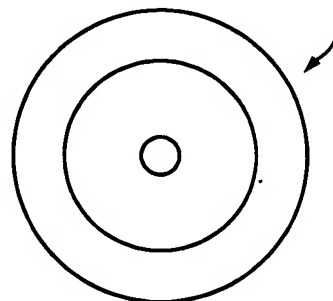
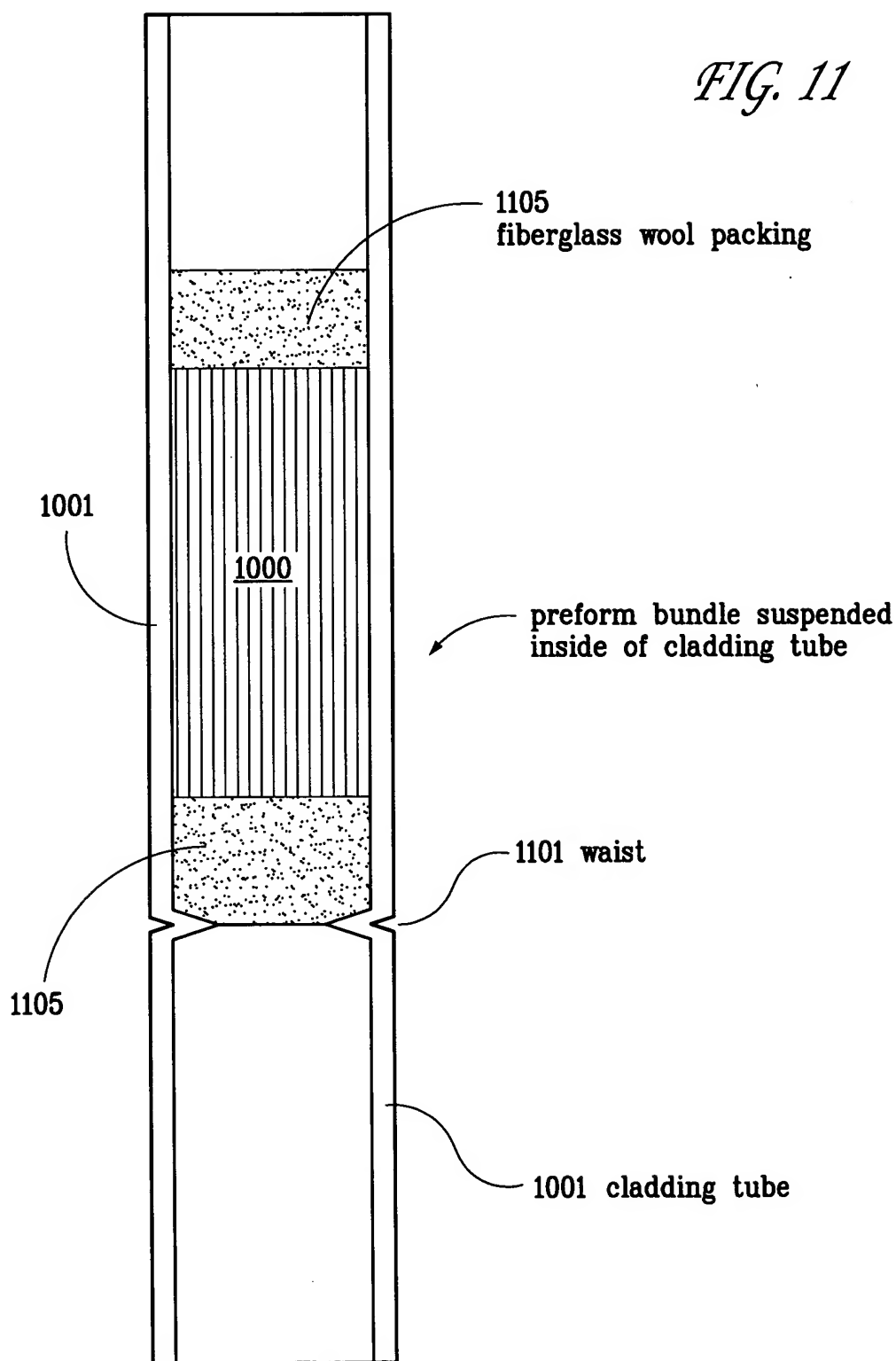


FIG. 10

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FIG. 11



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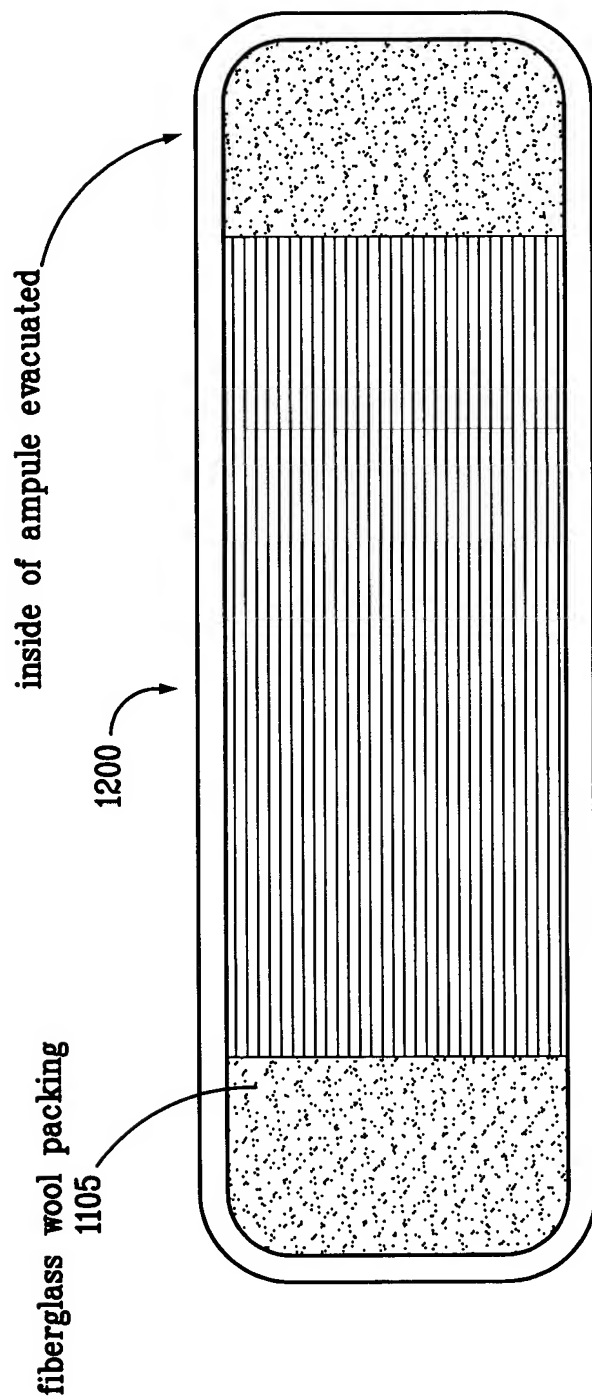
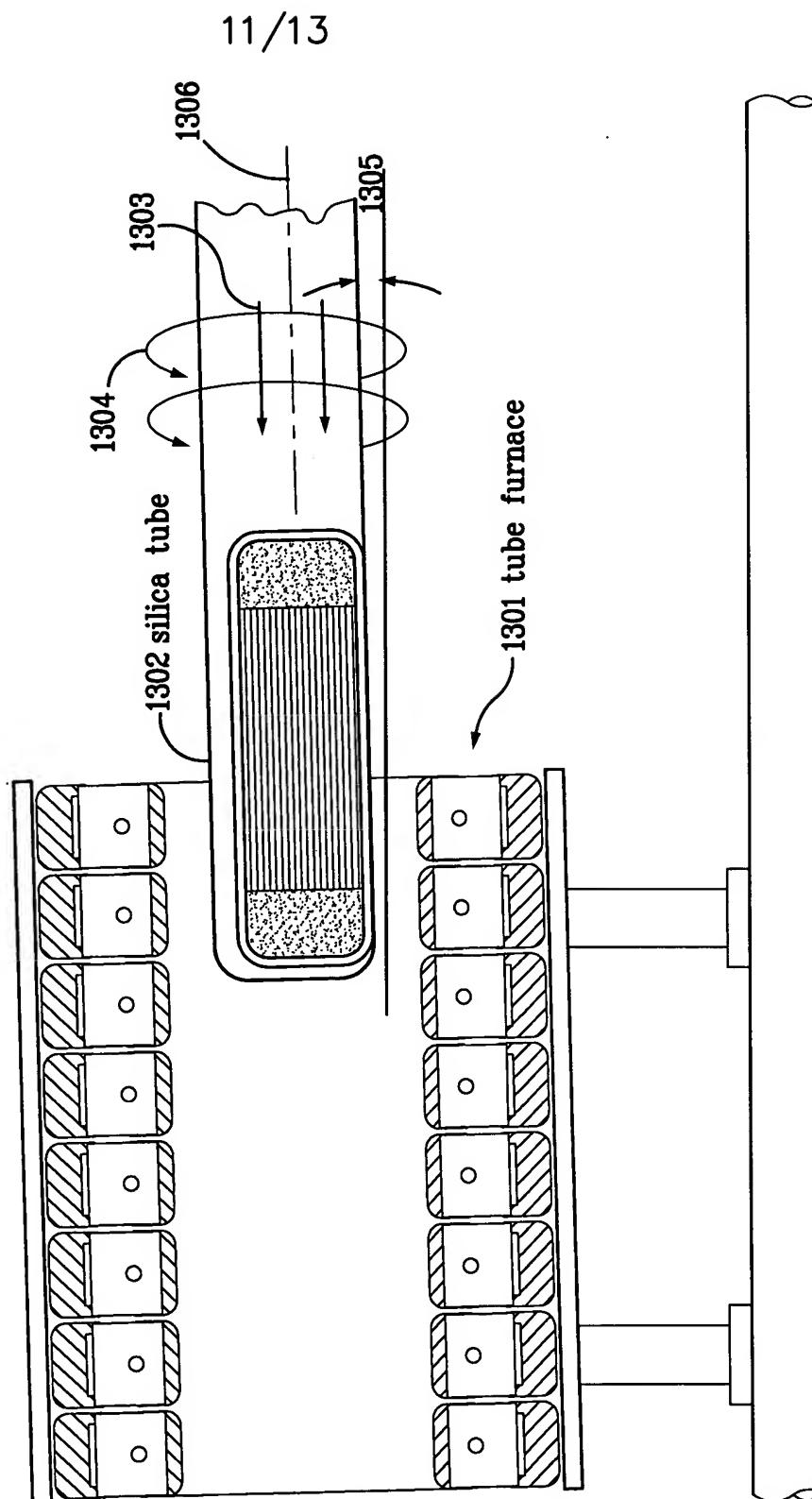
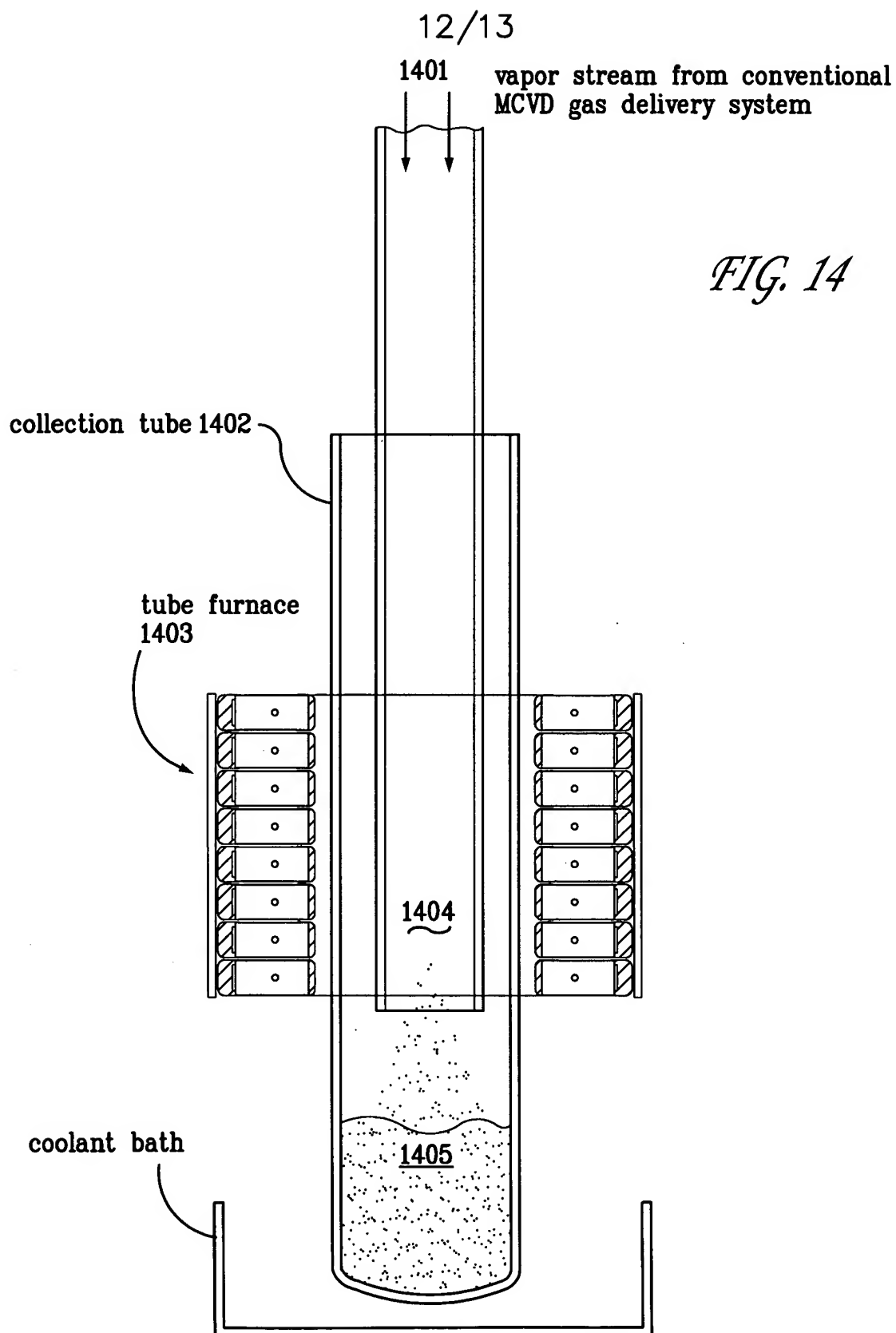


FIG. 12

FIG. 13





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FIG. 15

